

**Security Architecture Work Group  
Of the  
Nebraska Information Technology Commission**

Monday January 8, 2001  
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Nebraska State Office Building,  
Sixth Floor, Conference Room W  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, Nebraska

**Minutes**

**A. Participants**

Allan	Albers	HHSS/IS&T
Mahendra	Bansal	Natural Resources
Jason	Everett	ESU 10
Jerry	Hielen	IMServices
Joe	Kellner	DOR
Scott	McFall	State Patrol
Michael	Overton	Crime Commission
Scott	Pettit	AIM
Leona	Roach	University of Nebraska Computing Services Network
Steve	Schafer	Nebraska CIO

**B. Review Timeline for Draft Policies**

The Technical Panel endorsed the security policies at their meeting on December 12, 2000. The resolution called for an annual review of security policies. The NITC will consider the security policies at their meeting on January 23, 2001.

**C. Review Work Group Charter**

The Charter calls for the work group to fulfill the following major tasks:

1. Make recommendations for security policies and guidelines
2. Document existing problems, points of vulnerability, and related risks
3. Provide information to state agencies, educational institutions, and policy makers about security issues.

**D. Implementation Options**

Discussion centered on four strategies:

1. Solicit executive understanding and support for security issues.
2. Conduct a 2 to 3 hour security forum in the spring to introduce the security policies.
3. Organize a 2-day security conference next fall that would provide detailed information on security issues.
4. Develop a template and examples of security plans and programs.

Some specific comments included:

ESU 10 is providing four 50-minute segments on security issues at an education conference in Omaha on April 26 and 27. The topics include an introduction to security, telecommunications and network security, network attacks and response, and security technologies. Jason Everett of ESU 10 suggested that the education sector and state government should work together to organize a security conference.

Several groups have organized security conferences in the past. This includes Nebraska CERT. The 3rd Annual CERT Conference will be held August 6-10, 2001, in Omaha, at the Holiday Inn Convention Centre. According to the CERT website (<http://www.certconf.org/>), the program will feature sessions focusing on Internet/ intranet/extranet security, VPNs, PKI/cryptography, NT security, WWW, network intrusions and countermeasures, distributed denial of service attacks, response teams, management and awareness issues. The conference is designed for anyone with responsibility for or involvement or interest in information and network security, and has sessions for those new to security as well as for seasoned professionals.

According to its web site (<http://www.infotec.org/index.htm>), Infotec 2001 may include one or more sessions on security. The dates of this conference are April 23-25 at the Holiday Convention Centre.

The Cornhusker Chapter of the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) sponsored a computer security conference last March. The conference included several national-level speakers.

Several organizations, including SANS (<http://www.sans.org/newlook/home.htm>) and the Computer Security Institute (<http://www.gocsi.com/>) offer national conferences.

The best timeframe for a security conference targeted to governmental and educational entities would be in the fall, in order to allow adequate time to organize and avoid conflicts with other events. It should be timed to supplement and not conflict with other technology conferences. An initial 2-day conference followed by monthly or quarterly topical meetings would be the most effective way to keep attention directed to security issues.

Agencies need assistance with specifications and set-up of security measures such as firewalls. A web site should list DAS contacts for security issues and other resources that are available.

The private sector has had some success in gaining the attention of high level management by pointing out their legal liability if a firm is negligent on security issues.

**E. Next Meeting: Monday February 12, 2001 at 1:30, location to be announced.**

**F. Handouts:**

1. <http://www.sans.org/mistakes.htm>
2. List of Security Issues for State Systems (attached)